Merger of NISCOM and INSDC

1462. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the report of the CSIR Review Committee, with Abid Hussain as Chairman, recommended to merge National Institute of Science Communication, formerly PID, and the Indian National Scientific Documentation Centre, to enable consolidation of information service around a strong National Science Library;

(b) if so, whether the recommendations have been accepted;

(c) if so, the details of action taken thereon; and

(d) if not, the reasons for the rejection?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) Yes Sir, the Abid Hussain Committee in its Report of 1986 had inter-alia recommended that PID and INSDOC should be merged, as this would consolidate information service around a strong National Science Library, a network anticipatory information service and a translation service. The Abid Hussain Committee report was remitted by then Prime Minister of India to the Science Advisory Council (SAC) to the Prime Minister for their observation. In regard to the merger, SAC had suggested that the purpose of INSDOC should be re-examined. These recommendations were considered by the CSIR Society, Chaired by the Prime Minister wherein it was decided that the functioning of INSDOC be reviewed. Review Committee, that was constituted to consider and assess the possibility of synergising of the roles, functions, core competencies, recommended merger of the two institutes. The recommendations of the Committee have been considered by the Governing Body of CSIR.

(d) Does not arise.

Establishment of Institute of Seismology in Gujarat

1463. SHRI BRAHMA KUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a proposal from the Gujarat Government to establish an Institute of Seismology Research;

(b) if so, the status of the proposal; and

(c) by when the proposal is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) to (c) Sir, a proposal has been received from the Government of Gujarat for setting up of a Sesimological Research Institute. An Expert Group was constitued to concretize the proposal and work out the details including the estimated cost and possible financing patterns and mechanisms. The Expert Group has submitted its report, and action has been initiated for processing the proposal further.

Technology for use of Fly Ash

1464. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Fuel Research Institute has developed know-how for bulk utilisation of Fly Ash for soil amendment, waste land management and reclamation of over-burdened dumps;

(b) if so, whether the same know-how has been covered under patent;

(c) whether the said know-how has been implemented in large scale, successfully; and

(d) if so, how Government are intending to encourage the inventors of the said know-how?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. As per Central Fuel Research Institute (CFRI) Dhanbad they have developed techniques for bulk utilization of fly ash for soil amendment, wasteland management and reclamation of overburden dumps. These developments are demonstrated through large scale pilot trials. The developments are IPR protected.

(d) The inventors of the know-how receive intellectual fee as per the CSIR guidelines.